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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application Number:

Filed:

Applicants: Peter Falb, Charles W. Thaxter, Sr., David Clare, Victor Sacco, Jr.,  
Scott Leon, Shannon Lucia, Eric R. Rioux

Title: Diaphragm Metering Chamber Dispensing Systems

International Application No: PCT/US04/018642, Filed 09 June 2004

Original US Applications: 60/477,382, Filed 09 June 2003

TC/A.U:

Examiner:

Assignee: Dako Denmark A/S

Attorney Docket: DCDispUSP154

Customer No. 33549

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

I. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The claims have been amended to limit dependencies and to cancel claims 2-6, 8, 9, 11-23, 26-28, 30, 31, 33, 35, 38-44, 46, 50, 51, 53-55, 58, 61-65, 67-68, 70-72, 76, 81-86, 88-95, and 97-169 as filed in the original application, leaving claims 1, 7, 10, 24, 25, 29, 32, 34, 36, 37, 45, 47-49, 52, 56, 57, 59, 60, 66, 69, 73-75, 77-80, 87 and 98 remaining in the application. In the original application, a large number of claims were presented in order to adequately claim the various aspects of the present invention(s) in dependent and alternatively independent fashions. The applicants have voluntarily reduced the amount to assist the examiner in their efforts to primarily 3 independent and closely related claims (with a limited number of accompanying dependent claims) for a consideration in this first application without waiving the right to add claims such as dependent claims already disclosed herein or to file other applications such as continuations, divisionals, or continuations in part.

Before calculating filing fees and before examining the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.